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11

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TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Membership

Representative Martha Wong



Biographical Information

State Representative Martha Wong, a native Houstonian, is a second generation Chinese American, the first Asian American elected to the Houston City Council, and first Asian American woman elected to the Texas House of Representatives. Sworn into office on January 14, 2003, the Honorable Martha Wong represents District 134 in Houston, Texas, which includes River Oaks, West University Place, Southside Place, Bellaire, parts of the Montrose area, and the Texas Medical Center.

An honor not bestowed on many legislators, House Speaker Tom Craddick appointed Representative Wong Vice Chairman of the prestigious House Committee on Rules and Resolutions. She is also a member of the Committee(s) on Urban Affairs and Economic Development. She was appointed to the Board of the Texas Communities in Schools program, as well as named to the Executive Committee of the newly formed Texas Tourism Caucus.

Before Martha began distinguishing herself as a State Representative, she won the right, by 62 percent, to represent District C on the Houston City Council in a run-off election on December 4th, 1993. She was re-elected by an overwhelming 85 percent in 1995 and ran unopposed in 1997. After six years of dedicated service to the City of Houston, due to term limits, Martha proudly finished her City Council career in 1999.

Martha has achieved a long list of firsts: the first Asian American School Principal in the State of Texas; the first Asian-American recognized by the Houston Federation of Women's Award for Excellence in Education; and the first Asian American in the Texas Women's Hall of Fame.

Martha earned a Bachelors degree from the University of Texas, and Masters and Doctoral Degrees from the University of Houston. The U of H College of Education recognized her as a Distinguished Alumnus, and the Asian American Studies Program asked her to serve as Chair of their Advisory Board to help raise funds and public and student awareness of the many programs their department offers. Martha was appointed by Lt. Governor Hobby to serve on the University of Houston's Vision Commission and by Governor George W. Bush to the Governing Board of the Texas Department of Economic Development.

Even with her present duties as a State Representative, Martha still has time to serve on the Boards / Advisory Boards of the American Red Cross, the Neuhaus Education Center, the Alley Theater, the Lions Eye Bank Foundation, the Asian Pacific American Heritage Association, the Asian Society, the University of Houston Alumni Organization, and was part of the Houston Olympic 2012 Foundation.

A leader in both the Asian American and the greater Houston communities, Martha has been recognized for her community service and dedication by the Greater Houston Women's Foundation, the Houston Lion's Eye Bank, the National Conference of Christian and Jews, the Texas Asian Republican Caucus, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Upper Kirby District, TREK, the Texas Council of Women School Executives, and the Chinese Community Center.

Martha Wong is a unique woman who truly personifies the best of what residents of Houston may achieve through hard work and perseverance. From her experiences as a Houston City Council Member and through her selfless acts of public service to countless civic organizations, Houstonians continue to benefit from her tireless efforts as she makes significant strides for her constituents, as well as all Texans, in the Texas House of Representatives.

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